



Hilton Garden Inn Richmond Downtown

The Hilton Garden Inn Richmond is a 250 room hotel developed from the 120 year old building that was the former Miller and Rhoads department store. The hotel features a full service restaurant and nearly 7,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space.



GREEN ACTIVITIES



Optional Linen Service. Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Change linens only upon request
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Track optional linen participation rate
- Purchase water and energy efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals



Recycling and Waste Reduction. Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Provide the opportunity for guests to recycle: aluminum cans, newspaper
- Also recycle toner cartridges, cardboard
- Track overall solid waste costs

Guest rooms

- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items

Kitchen (or meetings/events)

- Recycle fryer grease and/or filter grease prior to recycling
- Donate excess food from events
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Purchase locally grown products and other foods

Dining room (or meetings/events)

- Use disposable foodservice items made from recycled content
- Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content
- Use reusable dishware and glassware and minimize the use of disposables
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles

Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper

Office

- Use a last-in/last-out inventory and effective labeling systems
- Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Building and grounds

- Install carpet with low-VOC adhesives
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex low or no-VOC paints
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use less toxic materials
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- Proper portioning and preparation of food



Water Conservation. The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater
- Have established a numeric goal to reduce water consumption over time

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Have installed: low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute), low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less), Automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweep first)
- Use microfiber technology mops

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilizes native species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas



Energy Conservation. The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have had an energy audit to identify efficiency opportunities within the past 12 months

- Calculate the environmental impacts of the facility's energy usage by using a pollution calculator
- Use ENERGY STAR's Benchmarking Tools for the Hospitality Industry

Heating and cooling

- Have installed ENERGY STAR-rated windows and doors
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)

Appliances and electronic devices

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)

Transportation-related energy use

- Working with local transit authority



Green Events Package. The facility must offer a "green" or "environmentally-friendly" package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages

For more information on Hilton Garden Inn Richmond Downtown, see www.richmonddowntown.hgi.com or contact Sandra Thomas at Sandra.thomas@hilton.com or (804) 727-2107.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation. The program has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism; these practices are the minimum requirements for participation in the program, but encourages participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations. **Virginia Green Partners** are committing to help support the program and encourage their customers to join or do business with Virginia Green-certified participants. Although not necessarily tourism facilities themselves, Partners are expected to practice green activities in their own facilities as well. For more information on **Virginia Green**, see <http://www.deq.state.va.us/p2/viriniagreen/homepage.html> or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.

